The People's Korea

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Presidential New Year Cards

President Kim Il Sung received New Year cards and messages of greetings from foreign party and state leaders and international organizations and public bodies on the occasion of the New Year 1980, according to KCNA reports.

They wished President Kim Il Sung good health and a long life and the Korean people successes this year in their struggle for socialist construction and the independent and peaceful reunification of the country.

President Kim Il Sung received New Year's cards from the following party and state leaders:

☆ ☆

Hua Guofeng, Chairman of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China and Premier of the State Council of the People's Republic of China; Yeh Jianying, Chairman of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress of the People's Republic of China; Leonid Ilyich Brezhnev, General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union and President of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics; Nicolae Ceausescu, General Secretary of the Romanian Communist Party and President of the Romanian Socialist Republic; Erich Honecker, General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany and Chairman of the Council of State of the German Democratic Republic; Edward Gierek, First Secretary of the Central Committee of the Polish United Workers' Party; Henryk Jablonski, President of the State Council of the Polish People's Republic; Gustav Husak, General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Czechoslovak Communist Party and President of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic; Janos Kadar, First Secretary of the Central Committee of the Hungarian Socialist Workers' Party; Pal Losonczi, President of the Presidential Council of the Hungarian People's Republic; Todor Zhivkov, First Secretary of the Central Committee of the Bulgarian Communist Party and President of the State Council of the Bulgarian People's Republic; Josip Broz Tito, President of the League of Communists of Yugoslavia and President of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia; Enver Hoxha, First Secretary of the Central Committee of the Party of Labour of Albania; Haxhi Lleshi, President of the Presidium of the People's Assembly of the People's Socialist Republic of Albania; Ton Duc Thang, President of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam; Le Duan, General Secretary of the Communist Party of Viet Nam; Y. Tsedenbal, First Secretary of the Central Committee of the Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party and President of the Presidium of the Great People's Khural of the Mongolian People's Republic; Mohammad Zia Ul-Haq, President of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan; U Ne Win, President of the Socialist Republic of the Union of Burma; Benjamin Henry Sheares, President of the Republic of Singapore; Ali Abdullah Saleh, President of the Yemen Arab Republic and Commander-In-Chief of the Armed Forces; Saddam Hussain, President of the Republic of Iraq; Elias Sarkis, President of the Republic of Lebanon; Hussein the First, King of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan; Yasser Arafat, Chairman of the Executive Committee of the Palestine Liberation Organisation and Commander-In-Chief of the Palestine Revolutionary Armed Forces; Ahmed Sekou Toure, President of the Guinean Revolutionary People's Republic; Dawda Kairaba Jawara, President of the Republic of Gambia; Leopold Sedar Senghor, President of the Republic of Senegal; Kenneth David Kaunda, President of the Republic of Zambia; Didier Ratsiraka, President of the Democratic Republic of Madagascar; Godfrey Lukongwa Binaisa, President of the Republic of Uganda; D. Burrenchobay, Acting Governor-General of Mauritius; Michael Manley, Prime Minister of Jamaica; Margrethe the Second, Queen of the Kingdom of Denmark; Urho Kekkonen, President of the Republic of Finland; Rudolf Kirchschlaeger, President of the Republic of Austria; Anton Buttigieg, President of the Republic of Malta, and Dominic Mintoff, Prime Minister of the Republic of Malta.

President Kim Il Sung sent New Year's cards to them.

Pyongyang Offers High-Level North-South Talks

Candidate Venues Include Panmunjom, Pyongyang, Seoul, Third Country

PYONGYANG, Jan. 12 (KCNA)—A press conference was held for home and foreign reporters at the People's Palace of Culture on January 12 after delivery to the south Korean side of letters containing important proposals for the peaceful reunification of the country.

A spokesman of the Committee for the Peaceful Reunification of the Fatherland spoke at the press conference.

Saying that our nation is subjected to immeasurable misfortunes and sufferings and the north and the south are unable to make a unified development, each following different roads, owing to the division of the country which has been continuing for many years, he stressed:

The changed situation at home and abroad today makes it urgent to jointly seek a way out for the nation in order to put an end to the tragedy of national split and accomplish the cause of the country's reunification as early as posssible.

Proceeding from this stand, our party and the Government of our Republic have taken a signal step for promoting the peaceful reunification of the country and sent letters containing proposals for the reunification question signed by Comrade Kim Il, Vice-President of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and Chairman of the Committee for the Peaceful Reunification of the Fatherland, and Comrade Li Jong Ok, Premier of the Administration Council of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, to the authorities and personages of different political parties and organizations of south Korea.

Our side formally conveyed these letters to the south Korean side through its liaison personnel at Panmunjom at 2 P.M. today, said the spokesman.

He introduced, among the letters delivered to the south Korean side, the full texts of the letters addressed by Comrade Kim Il, Vice-President of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and Chairman of the Committee for the Peaceful Reunification of the Fatherland, to Kim Jong Pil, President of the Democratic Republican Party of south Korea, and Kim Yong Sam, President of the New Democratic Party of south Korea, and by Comrade Li Jong Ok, Premier of Administration Council of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, to Sin Hyon Hwak, "Prime Minister" of south Korea.

Comrade Kim Il, he said, sent letters to nine other personages—permanent adviser to the President of the Democratic Republican Party of south Korea Chong Il Gwon, President of the Democratic Unification Party Ryang Il Dong, Chairman of the United Socialist Party An Pil Su, adviser to the United Socialist Party Kim Chol, Co-chairmen of the "National Union for Democracy and National Unification" Yun Bo Son, Kim Dae Jung and Ham Sok Hon, Chairman of the "Central Council of South Korean Roman Catholics" Kim Su Hwan and "Chief of Staff of the Army" Li Hui Song.

The spokesman expressed the sincere hope that the authorities and personages of political parties and organizations of south Korea will affirmatively respond to our letters.

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Veep's Letters

Mr. Kim Jong Pil
President
Democratic Republican Party
Seoul

We have ushered in the first year of the 1980's, undergoing the tragedy of national division as ever.

The history of division which began in the 40's is continuing still today when the 80's has set in. We think no responsible politician of Korea can turn his face away from this grim reality of the country.

Furthermore, today when the situation around our country is complex, it cannot but endanger the future of the country and the nation to continuously follow the road of division, the north and the south antagonizing and confronting themselves with each other.

The politicians in the north and the south should deeply awaken and shape the destiny of the nation by their own efforts by rejecting the outside forces and realising collaboration and unity of the fellow countrymen for reunification.

It is true that there are differences in system and idea and there exist misunderstanding and distrust between the north and the south. But now is not the time when we should argue about all these differences and the wrong doings of the past.

We think at the present juncture the north and the south should reopen the door of dialogue as soon as possible and sincerely work to find a road to the peaceful reunification of the country.

For the independent and peaceful reunification of the country, we consider that talks between the authorities, along with a comprehensive north-south political consultative conference which we have already proposed to convene, may be held and we are ready to bring talks between high-level authorities to maturity.

Under the present condition in which the north-south dialogue has been ruptured, the pressing problem is how to break the present state of freeze and work to make a new start for dialogue and reunification.

In this context, we think it is very significant above all for the responsible politicians in the north and the south to meet with each other, exchange opinions in an open-hearted way and deepen mutual understanding and trust, while narrowing down differences.

It is for this purpose that we want to meet directly with you and exchange opinions.

As for our contact, the earlier, the better. Panmunjom, Pyongyang or Seoul may be chosen as a venue of our contact. If this is considered to be inconvenient, a third country may be chosen.

In the belief that you will approach our proposal with sincerity from the stand of a politician concerned like us about the destiny of the nation, I hope for an affirmative reply from you.

Kim Il
Vice-President
Democratic People's Republic of Korea
Secretary of the Central Committee
Workers' Party of Korea
Chairman
Committee for the Peaceful Reunification of the Fatherland
Pyongyang, January 11, 1980

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Mr. Kim Yong Sam
President
New Democratic Party
Seoul

I am sending this letter in the belief that you standing in the van for the restoration of democracy are deeply concerned for the question of the country's reunification.

Today we are living with differing ideologies and political views in the north and the south of the country, but are both undergoing the heart-rending sufferings of national split.

Moreover, the situation around us tends to separate by the farthest distance, indefinitely, the north and the south linked with the same veins and impose greater calamities upon our fellow countrymen. When the nations of the world, big and small, are shaping their destinies for themselves, we should also solve our nation's question on our own efforts without outside interference.

I think that all the politicians in the north and the south who are responsible for the destinies of the country and the nation should have a broad-minded decision for the solution of the question of the country's reunification from the stand of truly loving the country and the nation.

The politicians in the north and the south, though they differ in ideology and idea, should collaborate and unite with each other for the great cause of the nation and pave the way for reunification and thus realize the long-cherished desire of the nation.

From this stand, I think that there may be held a wide-range dialogue participated in by political parties and organisations in the north and the south, furthermore, bilateral or multilateral contacts and negotiations between political parties, organisations and authorities, as nation-saving measures for the accomplishment of the cause of national reunification.

Taking note of the fact that you have already expressed the readiness to meet us to discuss the question of the country's reunification, I once again solemnly propose a meeting with you for an open-hearted, sincere exchange of views.

Panmunjom, Pyongyang or Seoul are acceptable for the venue of contact or a third country may also be chosen. The earlier our contact, the better, we think.

Sincerely hoping that there will be a useful meeting with you to adopt excellent measures for peaceful reunification, I expect your affirmative reply.

Kim Il
Vice-President
Democratic People's Republic of Korea
Secretary of the Central Committee
Workers' Party of Korea
Chairman
Committee for the Peaceful Reunification of the Fatherland
Pyongyang, January 11, 1980

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Mr. Kim Dae Jung
Co-chairman
National Union for Democracy and National Unification
Seoul

I am sending this letter to you in the belief that you who have been exerting yourself for the democratic development of south Korean society have some measures in mind for the question of the country's reunification, the cherished desire of the entire fellow countrymen.

Today when we have greeted the 1980's, not putting an end to the 35 year long tragedy of national division, anyone of Koreans who has reason and conscience cannot but be deeply concerned about the grim reality of the country.

Moreover, today when the situation around the country is complex as never before, it is intolerable both from the national viewpoint and the humanitarian viewpoint to prolong the division indefinitely, the north and the south antagonizing and confronting themselves with each other as ever.

We think now is the time for the politicians in the north and the south to pool strength, reject the outside forces and pave the way to the independent and peaceful reunification of the country by the efforts of our nation itself.

At the present juncture there is no other way but to collaborate, unite and reunify for the north and the south to live together as a single nation.

Though we have different ideas and ideals and different political views, we have no difference in caring for the country and the nation and valuing the country and if we subordinate everything to the great cause of reunification, there will be no reason for us not to unite and there will be no problem insolvable.

For collaboration, unity and reunification we want to arrange a north-south dialogue at an early date and sincerely work to find a road to the peaceful reunification of the country.

We think a north-south political consultative conference represented by broad circles including the political parties, organizations and authorities may be convened and, at the same time, talks between the authorities be arranged for the independent and peaceful reunification of the country.

The question now is that the politicians in the north and the south should have contact and exchange opinions open-heartedly and unreservedly to find a way for dialogue and reunification as early as possible, narrowing down their differences.

From this stand we want to directly meet with you in Pyongyang or Seoul and have an exchange of our views.

Taking into consideration your personal conditions, we may have contact at any other place you consider possible and convenient and at any time.

We hope you will sent an affirmative reply to our proposal, deeply concerned like us about the future of the nation.

Kim Il
Vice-President
Democratic People's Republic of Korea
Secretary of the Central Committee
Workers' Party of Korea
Chariman
Committee for the Peaceful Reunification of the Fatherland
Pyongyang, January 11, 1980

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Mr. Yun Bo Son
Co-chairman
National Union for Democracy and National Unification
Seoul

We are sending this letter to you in the hope of having a sincere discussion of ways for the solution of the reunification question, the greatest task facing the nation, with you who are waging patriotic activities with fuller vigour as your years advance.

Being politicians of this land who have undergone alike a tragic history of national split for long 35 years following the protracted rule of Japanese imperialism, we have entered the 1980's with our noble mission to build a reunified and independent country unfulfilled. At this juncture, we keenly feel anew that the noblest task to be accomplished without fail by us politicians in our old age is to reunify the country both in view of our duty to the patriotic forerunners who departed, leaving the future of the nation to us, and our responsibility to the younger generation to whom we must not leave the legacies of distress.

If we are to fulfil this heavy duty to the fatherland and the nation, we think, there is no other way but to pave the way for reunification by our own efforts through the collaboration and unity of the north and the south, instead of pursuing confrontation and antagonism. Nothing can be solved in reliance upon others. Moreover, the very complicated situation around our country warns us that, if we lose our sense and dance to other's tune, we might invite greater national calamities, falling a prey to the tricks of outside forces, far from reunifying the country.

We think this is high time all the politicians in the north and the south who love the country willingly joined hands and pooled strength, not asking at all the differnce of ideology and idea and past errors, and achieved the peaceful reunification of the country for ourselves.

There, of course, may be this or that difference and misunderstanding between us. But our will is the same and we see eye to eye with each other on the point that we set store by the future of the nation and want the reunification of the country. We should collaborate and unite with each other with broad magnanimity of discarding our small self for a great cause.

If the north and the south are to collaborate and unite, the door of dialogue must be opened at the earliest possible date and views should be exchanged unreservedly and be unified. When such a dialogue is held, a comprehensive political consultative conference may he held with the participation of all the political parties and public organizations and personages of all circles in the north and the south and, furthermore, talks between the authorities may also be held, we believe.

Looking forward to the morrow when the door of dialogue and reunification will be opened, we hope to meet you directly, first of all, and have an open-hearted exchange of views. The earlier our meeting the better, and we may choose Panmunjom or Pyongyang or Seoul or a third country as its venue.

I expect an affirmative reply to our proposal from you.

Kim Il
Vice-President
Democratic People's Republic of Korea
Secretary of the Central Committee
Workers' Party of Korea
Chairman
Committee for the Peaceful Reunification of the Fatherland
Pyongyang, January 11, 1980

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PM's Letter

Mr. Sin Hyon Hwak
Prime Minister
Republic of Korea
Seoul

We are sending this letter to you, carrying our earnest feeling, concerned for the future of the nation, keenly conscious that the present situation at home and abroad urgently demands we authorities of the north and the south seek new measures for promoting the reunification of the country.

We believe that you will share our opinion that there is no more urgent and weighty task for our nation than to reunify the divided country. Moreover, we now find ourselves at a crucial juncture where the very complicated situation around our country is sounding time and again an alarm-bell urging us to reject the outside forces and pave the way for reunification without delay through the unity of the north and the south.

The authorities of the north and the south must open the way for the nation by heightening national consciousness and realizing reunification through collaboration and unity between us Koreans.

It is true that there are differences in system and idea and there exist misunderstanding and distrust, too, between the north and the south.

But, we think that we should resume the north-south dialogue at the earliest date possible and open the way of independent and peaceful reunification, not arguing about all these differences and the past.

If the dialogue is resumed, we are ready to have talks between the authorities of the north and the south and, furthermore, bring to maturity talks between the high-level authorities, along with the comprehensive political consultative conference already called for by us.

From this stand, we propose our direct meeting with you for an unreserved exchange of views.

The earlier our contact, the better. And we may choose Panmunjom or Pyongyang or Seoul as its venue, and we have no objection to a third country either.

If we of the same nation, the same compatriots, sit face to face and have an open-hearted and unreserved exchange of views, we will certainly find good ways for promoting mutual understanding and opening the road of national unity and reunification, we believe.

I express the hope that this patriotic proposal of ours will meet with a favourable response on your part.

Li Jong Ok
Premier of the Administration Council
Democratic People's Republic of Korea
Pyongyang, January 11, 1980

KOREA FOCUS

DPRK's Renewed Reunification Bid

With the outset of the 1980's, a huge political change is coming to the Korean Peninsula. The DPRK has advanced the most realistic and reasonable reunification proposals to the south Koreans, within and without government.

On January 11, DPRK Vice-President Kim Il, who is concurrently Secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and Chairman of the Committee for the Peaceful Reunification of the Fatherland, sent letters to the leaders of major political parties and public organizations in south Korea, while DPRK Premier Li Jong Ok sent a letter to the south Korean counterpart. Their letters called attention to the need to bring about territorial reunification and observed: "...we consider that talks between the authorities, along with a comprehensive north-south political consultative conference which we have already proposed to convene, may be held and we are ready to bring talks between high-level authorities to maturity."

The first reason for calling the latest proposals epoch-making is the fact that the proposals bear the names of top officials of the DPRK. The second factor lies in the avowed readiness to engage not only in talks between the authorities long advocated by the south Koreans but also in high-level talks. Thirdly, the overtures are apparently acceptable to those Koreans who are interested in territorial reintegration.

Achieving north-south territorial reunification is the shared aspirations of the Korean people, whereas the "yusin" regime of Pak Jung Hi pursued the nation-splitting policy by force. The advocates of reunification became martyrs. During the last months of "yusin," the Pak junta tried to outrageously oppress Kim Yong Sam, the newly-elected President of the Opposition New Democratic Party. A main charge against him was that he called for reunification to be achieved "by a democratic government by a democratic method" and declared himself ready to meet with DPRK President Kim Il Sung.

That Pak went out of the scene: the top man locally responsible for the obstruction of the reunification.

Since then, rapid changes have occurred in the south Korean political arena. Those who dreaded to speak are now becoming candid in their speeches with regard to the reunification issue. Prof. Kim Hak Jun of Seoul National University contributed an article to the January issue of a prestigeous vernacular monthly journal *Sin-Dong-A*, entitled "A Turning Point in the Reunification Movement." He remarked: "National reunification is a logical and historically legitimate job to be performed as soon as possible for the Korean people who had a unified state for a long period. Without it, we are simply in a state of semi-independence. Such semi-independence restricts the progress of our nation. This our whole nation must realize." Prof. Kim rejects reliance on foreign powers as the reunification issue is a domestic matter of the Korean people. He proposes specific ways of achieving reunification by urging bold north-south contacts and ending the Cold War with the north.

A politician made a public speech on the matter. Former chief executive Yun Po Son in his interview with a Newsweek reporter called for cultural and sports exchange with the north.

In view of those developments favoring north-south contacts, the DPRK on December 20 last made a written proposal to the south Koreans to form a unified national team to the 22nd Olympic Games Moscow. It was followed by the latest reunification bid.

It is well known that the United States conspired with Pak Jung Hi to perpetuate the division of Korea. In the circumstances now availing, the United States is advised not to interfere in the domestic matter of the Korean people. The Americans should refrain from pouring cold water on the climate warming up for north-south reintegration.

With the 70's gone and the 80's coming, the American public and the world public agree that the power of the United States has declined. What with Watergate internally and what with the Vietnam debacle externally, the United States found itself helplessly subject to pressure from the world, a far cry from its old position where it could influence the events in the world.

With the Presidential election months away, the Carter Administration is using extreme rightist policies to put up a facade of American power. Completely contrary to his 1976 election promise, President Carter is moving away from disarmament to the arms expansion. He is planning to increase military spending by $20 billion in a new fiscal year over the current scale and to increase it by annually 4.5 percent for the forthcoming five years. A rapid-deployment force is being formed, with a primary mission designated to intervene in Third-World countries as the United States has prepared itself for overseas intervention, a reversal of the policy of avoiding it after the Vietnam defeat. The CIA is again intensifying its subversive activities throughout the world. President Carter is reportedly about to set forth a new policy—a new Cold War declaration—equivalent to the Truman Doctrine which came just after the end of the Second World War.

As part of this policy move, the Americans are continuing with military provocations on the Korean Peninsula. On December 28 Gen. Wickham, commander of the U.S. forces in south Korea, announced after inspecting the DMZ that no military move by the north was detected. Lester Wolf, chairman of the U.S. House subcommittee on Asian and Pacific affairs remarked that he was happy with the north not exploiting the unrest in south Korea caused by the October 26 affair. These statements reaffirm the absence of the so-called threat from the north. Puzzlingly, Gen. Wickham said at the same place at the same moment that the lack of any unusual northern military move warrants special vigilance. Then, how could vigilance become unnecessary? The United States is now conducting a large-scale joint maneuver with the south Koreans, dubbed "Magex-80", involving even American forces in Japan. Their violations of the territorial airspace of the DPRK are continuing.

Military Balance, published by the London-based International Institute for Strategic Studies, put the DPRK's military spending at $1.2 billion and that of south Korea at $3.2 billion, twice the northern figure. What is the basis for the alleged threat from the north? Gen. Wickham claims that the threat of southward invasion is a threat to the United States. He cites the expansion by the Soviet Union and other Communist forces in the north of Japan and in the Pacific region and the importance of the Korean Peninsula as a strong-point in stemming the southward march of the Communists. If he is worried about the southward move of the Russians, the matter is a Russo-American issue, none of the Korean affair. Neither the United States nor Japan nor the Soviet Union should not try to use Kofea as their battlefield. The United States should stop invading another country in an effort to promote its big-power chauvinism or its own interests. Their troops should be withdrawn from south Korea.

The reunification talks within the Korean people should remain free from American interference.

For Freedom and Liberation

'We Should Be More Serious In Solving Questions about People'

(Gist)

— By O Bock Ryong —

Our beloved leader, Comrade Kim Il Sung, taught:

"Revolution and construction are the work of the people themselves. These tasks can be carried out properly only when broad sections of the masses are roused to action. The most important issue therefore in promoting our socialist construction and strengthening the revolutionary base, is to cement the Party structure, the General Staff of the revolution, and educate and reshape the whole people, uniting them around the Party. This means firmly building up the revolutionary ranks in both politics and ideology."

Whenever I think over this teaching of Comrade Kim Il Sung, I am deeply moved by his great revolutionary ideas and noble virtues. Throughout the whole of the anti-Japanese armed struggle, Comrade Kim Il Sung placed his firm faith in the people and relied on their strength. This was the decisive factor for victory in the revolution. He treasured and gave unlimited love to every comrade of the revolution and never spared himself in said that he had and energy to lead him in the revolutionary struggle.

Japanese imperialism did everything possible to wreck our revolutionary forces which were growing daily in strength, and quench the fierce revolutionary flames while we were active in the guerilla bases along the Tuman River.

Failing in this, they set out to undermine and destroy our revolutionary ranks from within, creating the "Minsaengdan," an organization of stooges through which they used all subversive means.

Many were duped by their cunning and vicious trickery and factionalists and Leftist opportunists took up the struggle against the "Minsaengdan," using ultra-Leftist lines. They branded large numbers of revolutionary fighters as "members of Minsaengdan" and created plots to persecute and massacre them.

The following events took place in Bayaho village, Wangching county of China, a small village not far from Chayaho on the Tuman River.

POISONED WATER ALLEGEDLY CAUSES STOMACHACHE

In the early summer of 1933 a unit of guerillas led personally by Comrade Kim Il Sung stopped by at this village.

The people of the village had entrusted their destiny wholly to the great leader of revolution, General Kim Il Sung. In defiance of the "punitive operations" of the Japanese imperialists going on almost every day, to directly meet the revered leader evoked deep feelings, and the people's joy knew no bounds. They took over sentry duty to let the guerillas rest in peace even for short time and did everything possible to help them with their work. In particular, the women brought out provisions they had kept secretly and busied themselves preparing meals.

Comrade Kim Il Sung clearly understood the difficult living conditions of the people and planned to lead the unit away from there as soon as possible. But when the people saw that he was planning to leave, they earnestly asked him at least to stay until after the supper they had prepared for them. So he decided to stay over as they wanted him to do so wholeheartedly. The guerillas enjoyed the food prepared by the people with such sincerity, and had a good time and rest.

The next morning however, more than 10 of the guerillas were unable to get up, complaining of pains in their stomachs. Some people ran about here and there to find the cause, questioning "What happened? We wonder why more than 10 people are sick at the one time even if it is only with stomachache. Someone has put poison in the food." Some of the villagers charged that "members of Minsaengdan" had put poison into the well.

On hearing this, Comrade Kim Il Sung sent the unit up into the mountain as a precautions against an attack by the enemy, and set a commander to the task of investigating the case in detail. After a while, the commander, who had gone down to the village, brought back a boy to report the result, to Comrade Kim Il Sung. There seemed no doubt, he said, that it was a plot of the "Minsaengdan" that gave the guerillas pains in their stomachs. He reported that "Villagers say that this boy put poison in the well, and the boy himself frankly confesses that he did. He said that a certain woman gave him the poison and he poured one bag into the well in the heart of the village and tried to put the other into another well, but was afraid to do it."

Having heard the report through, Comrade Kim Il Sung ordered the boy to fetch the other bag of poison, which was sure to be somewhere. But the commander said that he had gone to the place where the boy said he had hidden the poison but never found anything.

Comrade Kim Il Sung took the young boy by the hand and seated him, and asked question after question about his name, who were at home and what their living conditions were. Their family life was the same as that of all Koreans, groaning under the Japanese imperialist whips at that time. He had lost his father when very young, and he had come into the guerilla base with his mother in search for a living. His older brother had joined the guerillas to fight.

Understanding all this the Comrade Commander asked the boy: "Did you really put the poison in the well?" Treated so tenderly, the boy burst into tears and said that he really had put the poison into the well. But not satisfied that he had got at the truth yet and patting the boy on the back, the Comrade Commander asked more specific questions again, but the only answer he could get was that he had poured the poison into the well.

After witnessing all this, some commanders waited for the Comrade Commander's final judgment, thinking that everything had been made clear by the investigation. But after letting the boy go, Comrade Kim Il Sung said:

"...We should not be in a hurry to solve questions like this. We should be more serious in solving questions about people. We need to make clear the real nature of each incident to draw the correct conclusion; if we jump to a conclusion in a hurry, judging superficially, we will cause irrevocable loss to the revolution..."

ONLY POISON : ATTEMPT TO TURN GUERILLAS AGAINST PEOPLE

Comrade Kim Il Sung did not form a conclusion in so simple a way as other commanders had. He made further careful enquiries about the past records, the ideological trends, the living conditions and the like of the family of the boy, talking to the revolutionary organizations of the village. Then he called the boy again. The boy was at a loss what to do, for fear. Comrade Kim Il Sung said:

"...I don't really think you put poison in the well. How are you and we enemies? If you were an enemy you might put poison in the well to kill us, but we are not enemies, so it is not logical to think you did put the poison in the well. Your older brother belongs to the guerillas, so poisoning the well is not in the least to your advantage, is it? In addition, the guerillas have never harmed you, but are fighting to give you a happy life when you are suffering from such tribulations. So I wonder if you really did it. It's my opinion that you did not pour in the poison.

"...And there is your mother. As your mother is so old, you should ask her to go to the enemy-occupied area to stay at your relative's. As for you, what about you coming with us?

"People say you are a bad boy because you poisoned the well, but I don't believe this. There is no reason why you should have been forced to put the poison in the well."

The tears began to run down the boy's cheeks, and he sat quietly listening to what the Comrade Commander said. Taken thus to the Comrade Commander's heart, the boy said in a broken voice: "I didn't put the poison in the well. The villagers said 'You are the only one who has ever been to the well.' They threatened me, so I was forced to say that I put in the poison. I told a lie in the hope that they would pardon me if I said I did."

In this way the real facts of the case were brought out clearly by Comrade Kim Il Sung. He pointed out that it was not really an intrigue of the "Minsaengdan" that had caused more than 10 of our comrades to become sick. He then went down the mountain to the village on the following morning, taking them with him. All who had been confined to bed had recovered and went down too. When the guerillas got to the village, a very uneasy atmosphere prevailed.

Comrade Kim Il Sung had all the villagers gather together and, pointing to the boy, said:

"...You said that because this boy had put poison in the well the guerillas had had pains in their stomachs, but the boy really did not do it. Then who did? No one did, and there is no one here who took poison. Think about it. You have shared life and death, the bitter and the sweet with the guerillas. Why should you poison us? Who could ever believe this? We do not.

"...Why should you try to kill us? You have also come here to make revolution and fight with us against the Japanese imperialists, then why should you try to kill us? No one poisoned the well. It is true that some of our members became ill, but I think the reason is that they suddenly took much fatty food after going hungry for days. So there is no proof that it was a scheme of "Minsaengdan," nor is there any member of "Minsaengdan" here. In addition, you and we belong to the same family. So I do not believe that you ever tried to kill us....Now, what kind of person is really here? The only poison is the attempt to turn the guerillas against you, which is someone's plot. We declare here and now that this boy is not a member of the enemies, this boy that you charged with poisoning the well...."

As he finished his speech women sobbed. They gave deep thanks to General Kim Il Sung who had trusted and cared for them so much, even reading their uneasy minds. In particular, the boy's mother, overwhelmed by great joy and emotion, said in a trembling voice: "Mr. General! You trust us so much, I don't know how to express my thanks. As my boy has been taken to the heart of the General, I now have nothing to regret even if I were to die now..."

As the days pass, I feel all the more keenly that the great vitality of the revolutionary ideas and noble virtues of Comrade Kim Il Sung are being demonstrated more and more. He not only solved the problems about people seriously, but also took to his own heart all those who were brought over to the revolutionary side, and educated them personally throughout the long-drawn and complicated course of the anti-Japanese armed struggle.

(Subtitles are ours....Ed.)

1,080 Mil. Signature Collected Worldwide For Korea Reunion

The international signature campaign supporting the Korean people's just cause of national reunification which was launched on April 21 last year in response to the appeal of the International Liaison Committee for the Independent and Peaceful Reunification of Korea successfully closed on December 31 amid the great interest of the peace-loving progressive people of the world and broad public circles, KCNA reported.

During this period 128 countries and 31 international and regional organisations of the world participated in the campaign and the number of signers reached 1,080 million.

The campaign was participated in by heads of state and government of various countries, leaders and leading personnel of political parties, presidents and members of parliaments, government ministers, provincial governors, heads of tribes, mayors, officials of administrative and economic organs, personages of public organisations, members of organisations for friendship and solidarity with the Korean people, prominent public figures, soldiers and people of various strata.

In the Tome and Principe a group for the signature campaign supporting the independent and peaceful reunification of Korea was organized and under its guidance the campaign was held throughout the country. In Guyana the General Secretary of the People's National Congress, speaking at a plenary meeting of its General Council called for actively participating in the signature campaign and the campaign was waged more briskly in response to his call.

In Angola, in accordance with measures taken by the Central Committee of the MPLA-Workers' Party, all the central and local party cells held emergency meetings to discuss questions concerning the signature campaign supporting the independent and peaceful reunification of Korea and the entire attendants of the meetings signed their names.

In many countries appeals, statements and resolutions on vigorously waging the signature campaign were made public and press conferences and mass meetings were arranged for this purpose.

The participants in the campaign expressed full support to the Korean people's just cause of the independent and peaceful reunification of the country, denounced the criminal "two Koreas" plot of the U.S. imperialists and the south Korean puppet clique and the violation of human rights in south Korea and strongly demanded the immediate withdrawal of the U.S. imperialists from south Korea.

Rodong Sinmun on Signature Campaign

PYONGYANG, (KCNA)—Rodong Sinmun (organ of the CC of the WPK) on Jan. 7 carried an editorial article headlined "Powerful Demonstration of International Solidarity for Our People's Cause of National Reunification" on the successful international signature campaign waged in support of the Korean people's cause of national reunification in response to the call of the International Liaison Committee for the Independent and Peaceful Reunification of Korea.

One thousand eighty million people in 128 countries and at 31 international and regional organisations took part in the signature campaign which was held on an unprecedented scale on all continents from April 21 to December 31 last year. Heads of state, party and government leaders, prominent figures of political, public, academic and press circles and people of all walks of life, committees for supporting Korean reunification, public organisations and friendship societies in many countries took part in it.

Also taking an active part in it were international and regional organisations.

Underscoring the significance of the international signature campaign biggest ever seen, the article said:

This signature campaign of global scale was convincing proof of the correctness and vitality of our party's line for the reunification put forth by the great leader Comrade Kim Il Sung and a momentous event clearly showing that support to Korean reunification was a reality of the times that no force could stem. It was also a manifestation of the unanimous resolution and stand of the world peaceloving people not to allow the creation of "two Koreas" and war policy pursued by the splittists at home and abroad, but to fight shoulder to shoulder with our people, standing firm on their side, until the day of Korean reunification.

The Korean people are deeply grateful to the parties and governments, prominent figures of various circles and people of broad strata in different countries and international and regional organisations and foreign public organisations for their active participation in the signature campaign supporting the reunification of Korea, the article said, and went on:

Only when the division of Korea is ended and her reunification realised, the danger of a new war in Korea can be cleared away and peace and security in Asia and the world be maintained and consolidated.

Under this condition, it is entirely justifiable for the world peaceloving people to actively support the just cause of our people to put an end to the occupation of south Korea by foreign forces, remove the danger of a new war in Korea and reunify the country independently and peacefully.

Saying that the splittists at home and abroad should heed the voice of the world people demanding the reunification of Korea, it stressed:

The United States should stop its act to divide Korea forever and its interference in the internal affairs of Korea. It should withdraw promptly its nuclear weapons and troops from south Korea in compliance with the unanimous demand of the world people and the U.N. resolution. And it should respond at an early date to our proposal for replacing the Armistice Agreement into a peace agreement.

The south Korean authorities should take a correct stand toward the question of national reunification and choose the road of collaboration, unity and reunification, instead of following the road of division, clinging to the policy of depending on foreign forces.

In conclusion it stressed:

The Korean people value the support and solidarity of the world people for our cause of national reunification!

They firmly believe that the governments and peoples of all countries and international and regional organisations treasuring national sovereignty and peace will as in the past, so in the future, too, strongly reject the "two Koreas" plot of the splittists within and without and render active support and encouragement to the Korean people so they may realize the reunification of the country by themselves independently and in a peaceful way.

Pyongyang Rejects Use of Force for Reunification

In the wake of the Oct. 26 Pak Jung Hi assassination and the Dec. 12 arrest of the martial law commander, the trigger-happy Americans and south Koreans have been groundlessly charging Pyongyang with preparing to exploit the chaotic situation in south Korea to use force for reunification. As it turns out usually, there is no slightest sign of such move. The State Department revealed that it failed to detect any such sign. U.S. commander in south Korea Gen. Wickham confirmed that no unusual troop movement had been seen north of the DMZ.

COMMITTED TO NEGOTIATED SETTLEMENT

It has once again become clear that President Kim Il Sung and his Government have no intention whatsoever to achieve reunification by force or impose Communism on the south Koreans. They are unmistakably committed to the negotiated settlement of the north-south Korean issue. They view the revolution as a good neither exportable nor importable.

It is their long-standing position that the territorial reintegration of the divided Korean Peninsula should be achieved through north-south negotiations, without any foreign interference, on a democratic principle. The underlying premise is that the use of force is entirely irrelevant in achieving the reunification which is a 100% domestic matter of the Korean people.

President Kim Il Sung is duly confident that the negotiated reunification is quite possible firstly because the Korean people have shared vital stakes in it, they have resources enough to bring about it, secondly because the world community of nations favor it, and thirdly because it is the only and most effective way of bringing lasting peace and security to Korea and the Far East. For this overwhelming reason, Pyongyang is ready and willing to talk face to face and negotiate the reunification issue.

President Kim Il Sung stated:

"The question of Korean reunification should be solved in a peaceful way through a dialogue in compliance with the demand of our people and the desire of the peoples the world over.

"The Government of the Republic is making every sincere effort to bring about a dialogue for the peaceful settlement of the reunification question and keeps an open door for dialogue."

WAR SCENERIO NOT CONSIDERED

A key question is whether war would lead to the reunification, peace and prosperity of the Korean people and contribute to world peace. The answer is too obviously negative. Resumption of hostilities would result in a thermonuclear war of global scale, far from limited to the narrow peninsula. This scenerio would be most likely, given Pyongyang's mutual defense treaties with Moscow and Peking and Seoul's military treaty with Washington. A hard fact is the confrontation of one million strong armies across the DMZ, armed with the most sophisticated hardware available.

It is self-evidently the Korean people that stand to suffer most from the resumed hostilities. Neighboring Asian countries and those beyond as well would be affected by holocaust or find themselves involved in it. The whole of the Korean Peninsula would be left in ruins and the peace and security of the world would go, not to return. Regardless of the pre-war balance of force, the renewed conflict would prove no-win war.

This prospect reinforces the resolve of President Kim Il Sung and his Government to seek for the negotiated settlement and avoid the resumption of war by all means. Pyongyang has long refused to respond in kind to the military provocations from the Americans and the south Koreans. Self-restraint has characterized the behavior of the DPRK Government in every crisis situation, though it has fully been prepared to defend itself effectively and repulse any intruder.

BACKING WORD WITH DEED

Pyongyang has backed its word with deed since the first days of the division of Korea. Till today, Pyongyang has advanced peace overtures to the south Koreans on over 150 occasions. The July 4, 1972 north-south joint communique deserves a particular mention. It was signed and made public as the sole agreed guideline for reunification entirely at the initiative of President Kim Il Sung, which led to the start of the north-south talks, only to be suspended by the south Koreans. Then last year saw Pyongyang showing flexibility and sweetness in its approach to the reunification talks, which were again doomed to failure due to the lack of interest on the south Korean side.

When the dictator Syngman Rhee was toppled in April, 1960 and when Pak Jung Hi was assassinated in October last year, Pyongyang did not alert its troops for a strike against the south. It proposed to Seoul to agree to cooperate and unite for reunification. It dramatized its commitment to the peaceful settlement by underscoring its willingness to talk with the companions of the slain dictator. The DPRK Government made it plain that it would not attempt to impose Communism on the south Koreans even after the reunification of Korea.

In a bid to help the negotiated settlement, Pyongyang has repeatedly offered with patience to discuss mutual troop reductions and disarmament with South Korea proposing the troop strength specifically to 100,000 and less each, the DPRK reduced military expenditures to somewhat 15% of its budget since the publication of the north-south joint statement. It went as far as to call upon the United States to replace the present precarious truce accord with a peace agreement. A most significant evidence of the absence of the intention on the part of Pyongyang to resort to force is the fact that no military exercise of whatsoever nature has been conducted by the People's Army, the sort of a maneuver which is essential to a successful southward advance. Pyongyang has not engaged in "Team Spirit"- or "Magex-80"-type war games.

Italians Demand Democratic S. Korea

A joint meeting of political parties and public organisations of Italy demanding the democratization of south Korean society was held in Rome on December 18 last year, according to a KCNA report.

Making an opening address at the meeting, the Procurator General of the Republic of Italy pungently denounced the fascist dictatorial system and terrorism still ruling south Korean society.

He said that in their messages and letters of solidarity to the meeting leading personages of political parties and public organisations of Italy, ministers of the cabinet, members of parliament, lawyers, mayors and vice-mayors, professors, doctors and artists demanded the south Korean authorities release Kim Ji Ha and democratic figures and ensure them freedom.

He pointed to the increase of the number of personages of all strata and public organisations embraced in the committee for rescuing Kim Ji Ha.

At the meeting the chairman of the Italian Committee for Defence of Human Rights who is member of Parliament, and other speakers said that south Korea has the greatest number of prisons in the world and there the suppression of human rights is most serious in the world.

The speakers demanded the present south Korean authorities abolish the "Yushin system" and immediately and unconditionally release all the political prisoners.

They expressed full support to the struggle of the south Korean people for the democratic rights and freedom and manifested their determination to continue to wage a solidarity movement.

DPRK remains committed to the negotiated independent peaceful national reunification. The use of force is alien to it. Photo shows the first round north-south contact on Feb. 17, 1979, in Panmunjom which came after the Pyongyang's Jan. 23 sweetening reunification proposals.

Ind. Output Value Rises to 115%

PYONGYANG (KCNA)—The total industrial output value of Korea rose to 115 per cent last year compared with 1978. As a result, a decisive progress was made in carrying out the Second Seven-Year Plan and the independent national economy of the country further strengthened.

In 1978, the first year of the Second Seven-Year Plan, the total industrial output value grew to 117 per cent as against 1977.

These figures are greater than the average annual growth rate of industrial production envisaged in the Second Seven-Year Plan (12.1 per cent).

This shows that the vast tasks of the Second Seven-Year Plan are being successfully fulfilled.

Korea's industry is being developed continuously at a high rate knowing neither stagnation nor standstill.

During the fulfilment of the previous Seven-Year Plan, a period of allout technical reconstruction, the industrial production increased every year by 12.8 per cent on an average.

In the period of the fulfilment of the Six-Year Plan when the successes of industrialisation were consolidated and developed and the technical revolution was brought to a new, higher stage, our industrial production showed an increment of 16.3 per cent on an average every year.

—Industrial Establishments—

Sunchon Cement Factory

The Sunchon Cement Factory is the biggest cement factory of the DPRK with an annual capacity of 3 million tons. It is found in Sunchon county in South Pyongan Province.

Since there are large high-grade limestone and anthracite mines near the factory, it is constantly fed with pulverized limestone by large-scale long-distance belt conveyors.

All the production processes are remote-controlled from the central control room where industrial TVs, electronic computers and modern automatic control devices are installed. And each workshop is equipped with efficient dust absorbers.

The Sunchon Cement Factory contributes to the export of the country by exporting part of its cement production. In foreign countries, cement from the DPRK is particularly famous for its high quality, as it is made from high quality limestone.

Today, the Sunchon Cement Factory plays a most important role in the country's building-materials industry.

This factory has also received the President's guidance on several occasions like other factories around the Taedong River.

During his on-the-spot guidance tour of South Pyongan Province in May, 1973, President Kim Il Sung said that a giant cement factory should be erected in Sunchon where there were plenty of good limestone and anthracite. He himself chose the site for the factory and directed the factory construction. He settled all problems encountered in the construction work and moreover took care to provide the constructors with necessary living conditions.

As a result of hard work done by the constructors who always bore the President's teachings in their minds, the giant modern cement factory was built in a short time of a little more than two years on the site once grown with wild plants.

Since then, the workers of the Sunchon Cement Factory have been renewing records in cement production, satisfying the demand of the country where socialist construction is proceeding at a high pace.

(To be continued)

A long-distance belt conveyer which links the Sunchon Cement Factory (South Pyongan Prov.) and limestone and anthracite mines.

Seoul Univ. Prof. States:

Reunification Internal Problem of Nation

The January issue of south Korean monthly magazine "Sin Tonga" carried an article entitled "The Turning Point in the Development of National Reunification" authored by Kim Hak Chun, the assistant professor of the social college of Seoul University.

The article explains on how urgently the south Korean people call for the reunification of the country and on how greatly they expect to make 1980's the turning point for the reunification of the home country.

Follows the gist of the article:

The south Korean people can expect some progress in the democratization of the society, ushering a new year 1980. There is no doubt that the south Korean people are, not having clear knowledge of what democracy to be realized in the future, on their mark of democratic development. No forces can hold in check the people advancing towards the democratization of the south Korean society.

The social and economic progress and national reunification will be regarded as the supreme tasks of the Korean nation in 1980's because the Korean people strongly aspire after the reunification of their country. It is the demand of the time that the turning point should be made in the movement for the reunification of the home country in 1980's.

The Korean people should keep it in mind that they cannot be called the full-fledged independent nation so long as Korea remains divided and national development is limited by the division.

Follows the reasons why the basic view should be changed on the question of the reunification and the north-south Korean relation.

Firstly, the reunification and security were placed on the same boat or the reunification was thought to be put below the security. Therefore, the serious discussion was frequently limited on the question of the reunification and it is difficult to set forth an effective policy of the reunification. South Korea falls into a dilemma when an all-out effort is not made to realize the reunification of the country, the ultimate purpose of the nation, but the reunification is sought within the limit of not threatening security in south Korea.

Of course, the question of security is important. However, if the maintenance of security prevents a brisk discussion from being made on the question of the reunification in 1980's, it may make it possible to create atmosphere of threatening national cohesion and social order.

Secondly, the south Korean people should have wide aspects of the north-south Korean problem, regarding as an unavoidable trends of time an effective discussion on the question of the reunification. To this end, they must discard the consciousness of cold war. Significantly, the ruling circles are required to free from the consciousness of cold war.

Thirdly the question of national reunification should not be viewed as a dispute in the international life. It should be regarded as the internal affairs of the nation to be settled on the principle of the national self-determination.

Fourthly, the south Korean people hardly recognize that the question of reunification is directly related to the "establishment" question. The reunification question cannot be settled without the discussion of the "establishment" question.

The settlement of the reunification question needs the following political work.

The essential reform of the south Korean society should be promoted in order to develop freedom and democracy and liquidate the social and economic imbalance.

An effort should be made in order to establish the coexistence of the different social system in north and south, which requires the short period of peace coexistence as the transition for reunification but not for perpetuation of the division into north and south.

Steps should be taken to guarantee the perpetual peace in north and south by replacing the armistice agreement with a peace agreement and to lessen the military forces there. It goes without saying that true exchange and cooperation should be accelerated in terms of society, economy and so on. It is advisable that the north and south are called under the single name of state which has single system in 1980's.

Now that the south Korean people usher in a new year 1980, a popular system should be established to guarantee the freedom of expression of the people aspiring after the reunification of their country. The discussion on the reunification shouldn't be monopolized by a handful of ruling circles. In 1980's, the proposal should be made to democratize the discussion on the reunification of the country.

Huge Walls Built North of Seoul

Seoul and Washington coducted the large-scale "south Korea-U.S. military game" condenamed "Magex-80" and completed the construction of the so-called "walls to defend the capital."

These moves aim to demonstrate their cries about the "threat from the north," to threaten the south Korean people and thus dampen their struggle for democratization of the south Korean society and for the reunification of the country.

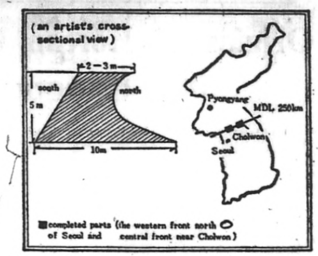
According to reports by various south Korean dailies, a ceremony to mark the completion of the walls took place on Dec. 29 last year in the northern part of Seoul.

The ceremony was held in the presence of puppet president Choe Gyu Ha; Chu Yong Buk, defense minister; Ryu Byon Hyon, chief of the joint staff council; Gen. Wickham, commander of the U.S.-south Korea combined forces command; and Li Hui Song, army chief of staff.

The Dec. 31 issue of the daily "Hanguk Ilbo" reported that the walls constructed in the northern part of Seoul and near major roads around Seoul are so high and thick that no mechanized units of the "enemies" could break. The paper reported that many tanks, ground-to-air and anti-tank missiles including "TOWs" are deployed near the walls.

The work on the concrete walls was started on June 16 last year under the personnel instruction of late dictator Pak Jung Hi on the pretext of guarding against the "threat from the north."

The construction work was undertaken by the Hyundae Construction Co. under the direction of the military leaders. It took one hundred and ninety-five days to build the concrete structures. During this period the work required a total of 14,190 military personnel and 39,560 workers. A total of 319 bulldozers and 20,267 construction machines were also used.



Huge "walls" constructed along the 250km southern part of the MDL

As already reported by the Feb. 14, 1979 issue of the People's Korea, the south Koreas constructed a huge "wall" like the "Great Wall of China" along the 250km southern part of the Military Demarcation Line (MDL).

The "Great Wall" of south Korea stands 5m, and measures 2-3m wide on the top and nearly 10m thick at the base. The structures are of a permanent nature and are made of stone and concrete.

The work on the wall was reportedly started in main front areas from the end of 1977 through the beginning of 1978. Some parts of the walls were completed on the west front of the MDL south of Seoul and in the central front near Cholwon, Kyonggi Province.

The present rules manipulated by the military clique and the U.S. authorities are making desperate efforts to maintain the "yusin system" without Pak Jung Hi and maintain the "two Korea" policy militarily.

In his address delivered at the "Nation-Wide Conference of Commanders" held in Seoul on Dec. 26, 1979, the defense minister Chu Yong Buk stressed that south Korea must strengthen its own defense capability and maintain a high-level command system in the 1980's to deter any surprise attack from the north.

These facts clearly show that the walls are obviously symbolic structures for the perpetuation of the division of the Korean Peninsula and that the south Koreans will continue to provoke a reckless war in defiance of the desire of the Korean people to ease tension in Korea and to realize her independent and peaceful reunification.

Wide Spread Pollution in S. Korea

In the 1970's pollution became widespread in south Korea. It spread from towns and factory areas to rural and fishing villages and even mountainous areas so that people were greatly alarmed by a high level of water, air and soil pollution and noise.

Air Pollution

Air pollution is getting serious in south Korea with each passing day due to poisonous gas, dust, fume and so on from pollution-causing establishments.

In Seoul the amount of polluted dust in the air per square kilometer was 224 tons in 1965, 551 tons in 1970 and 841 tons in 1975. This showed an four-fold increment in ten years. This year it is expected to reach over 1,000 tons. In Seoul an average of 72.3 tons of dust fall a month per square kilometer from the sky.

The World Health Organization (WHO) sets a permissible limit of petro-chemical ether at 40ppm and if the pollution is over that level, it will be very dangerous for human beings. However, the Ulsan area recorded a petro-chemical ether level of 71.0 ppm, Pusan 61.9 ppm and Masan 64.2 ppm. Meanwhile, mercury contamination levels in Ulsan and Masan are 9ppm and 10.1 ppm, respectively, while the permissible level of mercury is set by the WHO at 4ppm. The use of mercury is strictly restricted in Japan, but it is used freely in south Korea.

A cadmium pollution level of 24ppm is recorded in Ulsan, 24 in Pusan and 31 in Masan well over the WHO's permissible limit.

According to the recent issues of the south Korean dailiy "Seoul Kyongje Sinmun," green laver produced in Pusan contains a high level of mercury. Green laver produced in Ulsan and Masan is exported to Japan in large quantities.

Moreover, according to the recent issues of south Korean dailies, acid rain has caused skin disease in many areas, and fish catch has considerably decreased around the South Sea of Korea because of water or air pollution there.

In Ulsan, Ryochon, Pohang and other areas fruit trees and crops wither and people suffer from various diseases of respiratory organs and skin diseases due to harmful gas emissions from factories.

The area of paddy and non-paddy fields damaged by pollution in 1978 was 2.2 times that in 1977.

The loss of crops due to pollution also went up 2.4 times in the same period.

Damage to arable land and grain by pollution grows every year and poisonous materials very harmful to the human body are detected in rice and other crops.

In south Korea, chlorine-related agricultural chemicals are still used as seeds disinfectants. On the other hand, parachion which the U.S. used during the Vietnam War as a bacteriological weapon, is used by south Korean peasants without any restriction. In south Korea, the use of agricultural chemicals per one hectre is 10.19g, the highest in the world. The application of agricultural chemicals is increasing day by day while it decreases in other parts of the world. As a result of the massive use of agricultural chemicals, cases of contaminated rice are reported throughout south Korea.

Urban residents are suffering from various diseases due to air pollution.

Koryo University surveyed the amount of various kinds of heavy metals in the bodies of over 100 women in childbed and their placental lines of babies. The result was that the amount was 1.54 times that in the bodies of the mothers, revealing that pollution is a serious problem to the health of the fetuses.

A survey of 130 people living under different conditions to measure the content of lead in their hair showed that in one gram of hair 6 micrograms of lead were found in people in the countryside, 7.8 micrograms in Seoul citizens and 11.3 micrograms in drivers.

Even according to data made public recently by the Seoul municipal office, one per every three Seoulites is suffering from such diseases as chronic bronchitis asthma, cerebral anemia, heart disease, etc.

For example, among the residents in Songsu-dong, Songdong-gu, Seoul where there are 450 pollution-causing factories, the incidence of bronchitis, asthma and chronic giddiness is particularly high.

A Kim, who has lived in this district for 15 years and has suffered from bronchitis, says, "All young people are suffering from bronchitis." Another resident says, "Because of bronchitis and giddiness, expenses for medical care and drugs hold a high percentage in our living costs."

Water Pollution

The rivers of south Korea are seriously polluted. The pollution of the Han River is typical of south Korean-style pollution.

In the River Han salmon and other kinds of fresh-water fish cannot longer be found, and crucians, carp and eels are being exterminated, whereas deformed fishes with a crooked back have been found.

A survey of the Han River pollution conducted by a south Korean organ concerned showed that the amount of bio-chemical oxygen needed by the river reached 50.6 ppm, over 8 times the basic index set by the WHO, in Seoul area and 402.6 ppm, nearly 70 times, in Wonjuchon, in the upper part of the river.

The River Han is polluted by such heavy metals as mercury, zinc and cadmium.

The average pollution degree of the River Rakdong is more than double that in 1978. The River Kum is also polluted by cadmium, lead, mercury and other heavy metals. The amount of mercury found in fish caught in this river is 3 times the tolerable limit.

The degree of pollution by zinc in the coastal waters off Inchon and Ulsan is 44ppm and 20ppm, respectively. It is 29 ppm in the coastal waters off Kunsan.

Pollution of drinking water by zinc causes headache and stomachache when its degree reaches 5-6 ppm and kills people when it reaches 100 ppm.

Pollution by zinc is growing more serious in the coastal waters off Pusan, Yongil and other areas.

In the coastal waters off Ulsan pollution by cadmium and mercury surpasses the tolerance limit respectively over 7 times and 3 times.

Seoul has a population of 7 million people. Forty-one per cent of them drink polluted water from five river water sources.

A survey conducted by the "South Korean Environmental Protection Association" shows that 91 per cent of the 1,200 pollees think the pollution of the Han River has reached a very dangerous level.

Famous rivers like Kumgang, Yonsangang and Raktonggang in Kyonggi Province are getting worse and worse. The river contamination is so grave that paddy-fields accounting for 61 per cent of the total 13,000 chongbo in the area are seriously polluted, causing damage to farmers.

A farmer in Kyonggi Province says: "Eight or nine years ago we enjoyed fishing in rivers. But now we cannot even see a loach. Even the weeds which once thickly covered the river banks, are now gone."

In south Korea, the sea as well as the rivers are becoming dirtier. The sea around the east coast areas such as Ulsan, Ryosu Mokpo, Kunsan and Inchon have become so dirty that dead fish is seen floating on the water. The water pollution is caused mainly by pollution-causing Japanese-owned factories.

Thus, the south Korean people deplore the devastation of their land: "How long do we have to live with dirty water and air?"

Noise caused by automobiles is so serious that it threatens the health of people.

In Rakpoli, the noise issue is in a critical stage because the residential area is contiguous to the Namhae Chemical Co. Moreover, it is difficult to dry the laundry in the sun and to open the windows because of soot from the factory.

The River Han is seriously polluted by the neighbouring pollution-causing factories.

Military Fact Sheet

It is a matter of common knowledge that the Korean Peninsula is one of the most dangerous potential flash-points with serious implications for its peace and security and for those of the world. A hard fact of life is the obvious lack on the part of the Americans and the south Koreans of the intention to defuze the tense situation which may lead to the outbreak of a new round of hostilities certain to expand into a global war. This is in striking contrast with the determined commitment of Pyongyang to the negotiated reunification.

The destabilizing arms buildup in south Korea is illustrated by the latest three developments: continuing violations by SR-71's of the territorial airspace of the DPRK, the erection of huge military-purpose walls just north of Seoul and the start of a large-scale American-south Korean joint war game, codenamed "Magex-80." They are clearly perceived as a reckless military threat to the peace of the Korean Peninsula. By nature, they are offensive and disquieting even to the democratic opponents in south Korea who are striving to restore democratic order and establish a democratic coalition government as a first step to peaceful north-south reunification. They are a virtual attempt to discourage the growing move for north-south negotiations.

The continuing flight of SR-71's is aimed at gathering necessary military intelligence to prepare the U.S. forces and the south Korean forces in a contingency operation against the south. Nevertheless, Pyongyang has never sent any of its spy planes over south Korea or the United States. A successful southward invasion must need such spy operation. Therefore, this contrast may prove the American-south Korean plan to attack the north or at least to blackmail the northern people.

The construction of the strategic walls just north of Seoul after the completion of vast walls along the DMZ is an overt sign of the attempt to perpetuate the division of Korea by force, make it fait accompli and possibly reinforce the war preparations against the north. In other words, the walls may serve to defend south Korea against possible retaliation which would result from incursions into the north.

The new war game "Magex-80" involves the south Korean forces and the American forces in south Korea and Japan with their three services participating. The timing of the exercise is highly alarming enough to show sabre-rattling in a kind of the projection of American military power. This compares with the statement of Gen. Wickham that no unusual northern troop movement has been detected.

The war game is a prelude to "Team Spirit '80" which dramatizes the military provocations against the north. The main purpose of any war game and in particular the American and south Korean exercises is to prepare the armed forces for a planned operation and improve their capability. So far, however, Pyongyang has not conducted such military maneuvers which must precede any thrust south. Pyongyang has no foreign troops garrisoned on northern soil nor has any nuclear hardware. No Combined Forces Command has been formed by Pyongyang with any of its allies.

Pyongyang's defense spending is just half that of Seoul, while the population of the north is just half that of the south. South Korean armed forces receive constantly American weapons and other aid.

Last year, south Korea received $800 million as compensatory measures for the planned withdrawal of American forces, a plan totally freezed indefinitely. The $800 million comes on top of another $275 million in foreign military sales credits and $3 million in military training funds, raising the total of U.S. military assistance to south Korea last year to $1.1 billion, or more than the total Seoul received over the previous five years.

Furthermore, south Korea plans to spend $1 billion on U.S.

South Korea spent $1 billion on American military equipment last year as part of the five-year, $5.2 billion arms acquisition program that began in 1976. Of the $5.2 billion, the Americans account for $2.2 billion ($1.4 billion in military credits, $800 million in outright grant, and the south Koreans assume the other $3 billion.) This plan is three-and-a-half times larger than the previous $1.5 billion military modernization plan which started in 1971.

During the same period, south Korea imported more than twice as much military equipment as the north, according to the U.S. Arms Control and Disarmament Agency, and over the last ten years it has imported three times more arms than the north.

Brief News From S. Korean Dailies

Tax Offices Lose 73% of Lawsuits

Tax offices lost in about 73 percent of the suits filed against them during the first 11 months of this year, it was learned on December 25.

At least 242 suits were filed with the Seoul Appellate Court against tax offices. Of them, 70 cases were withdrawn by suers.

Observers said that the situation indicates that tax offices levied undue taxes, including general income and corporate taxes, by applying the wrong rate or law to persons or companies.

Of the 242 suits, 43 were filed against tax offices' unreasonable levies of general income and corporate taxes.

Thirty were filed against tax offices for undue levy of business tax, followed by value-added tax with 24, transfer income tax, 23.

The Seoul Nambu (southern) Tax Office accounted for 25 of the 125 cases in which tax offices were defeated.

(*The Korea Herald*, December 26, 1979)

Shortage of Budget Engenders 'Unbalanced' Medical Benefit

Insufficiency in the government budgets for medical insurance has caused unbalance in the medical benefits between the citizens in rural and urban areas and the haves and the have-nots, it was pointed out by a Seoul National University professor.

According to Prof. Cho Sok Chun of the SNU School of Administration in his report titled "Future Directions of the Policies of Medical Insurance," a total of 8,430,000 or 22 percent of the total population have benefited from the insurance since 1976 when the government first introduced the system in the country.

He said the government's intention to operate the insurance with minimum government funds has led it to put much stress on the subscribers of the first-group insurance—for workers of the firms with more than 300 employees.

Union of the first-group medical insurance have increased to 622 across the country at the moment, covering 4,315,000 people, thanks to the advantage in collecting the insurance premiums, he said.

However, the policy too much emphasizing the practicability of the insurance system has resulted in less development in the second-group insurance system which is for the farmers, fishermen and other workers at the smaller industries, Prof. Cho pointed out. He said the subscribers of the second-group insurance numbered only 63,000 in eight regional unions in the country at the present.

The professor said the unbalance between the first-group and second-group insurances has more significant meanings as the subscribers of the latter one, usually with less incomes, are more in need of medicial insurance than those of the former one.

(*The Korea Herald*, December 27, 1979)

Seoul Middle-School Testees Asked to Deposit 24,570 won

Students wanting to enter middle schools in Seoul were asked by the Seoul Board of Education on December 27 to deposit 24,570 won intuition (for three months) and the admission fee with pertinent organizations until January 21.

The advancement rate from primary school to middle school in Seoul stood at roughly 98 percent this year.

Admission to middle schools is made through lottery which is to take place next February. Students are assigned to the schools in the district near their residence.

A free, compulsory education for middle schools is planned to be implemented from 1987.

At present, even elementary school children are not completely free from school fees. Primary student in Seoul, Pusan, Taegu and other three big cities are required to pay the so-called "school-supporting fees."

(*The Korea Herald*, December 28, 1979)

Market Biz in Recession

Market business has been in recession since last April with no upturn in sight.

Wholesale and retailers at Seoul's two largest markets, Tongdaemun and Namdaemun markets located near the East Gate and the South Gate respectively, all say business is not likely to recover even by the end of this year.

Unlike conventional markets, department stores have always enjoyed booming business during the annual Christmas season, but things are different now.

Daily sales at Sansegae and Millopa, the two largest department stores except the Lotte Shopping Center which joined the competitive department store scene last week, are about 200 million won each, which is less than last year's level and much less than expected this year.

Business sources said daily sales at the Lotte Shopping Center amounted to about 100 million won, which is about half of its sales goal per day.

(*The Korea Times*, December 26, 1979)

'79 Stock Market Marks Protracted Stagnation

The stock market had failed to get out of protracted stagnation this year when it closed December 24.

Though stock market-listed companies will soon settle their accounts and pay dividents to their shareholders, stock prices unusually continued to fall, and they remained at the same level as the previous day.

The Seoul Stock Exchange composite index closed at 161.1 points, down as many as 27.9 points from 189.0 points registered at the start of the year.

One of the major characteristics of the stock market this year was that businesses, raised funds not by selling stocks or paid-in capital increases but by issuing company debentures.

The funds raised through the market this year totaled 816,443 million won, of which 76 percent, or 622,440 million won, was raised through the insurance of company debentures on 375 occasions.

The funds raised on each occasion averaged 2,177 million won, a sharp jump over last year's 1,190 million won.

Only five companies went public this year. They are Haitai Dairy, Samsung Electronic Parts, Samsung Electron Devices, Lucky Continental Carbon and Korea Electronics Co.

Six stock-market listed firms, on the other hand, dropped out of the list as they were judged not to meet the requirements for listed firms.

Thus number of listed companies decreased to 355 this year.

(*The Korea Times*, December 26, 1979)

9 Villagers Killed in 'Dud' Shell Blast

An explosive set off in a village in Pochon county, Kyonggi Province northeast of Seoul on January 7 leaving nine adults killed and one woman injured seriously.

The tragedy reportedly occurred while the nine villagers were decomposing a bomb. Yim Yong Ok, who was among the dead, brought to his house from a mountain path near their village. Yim used to be a scrap iron collector.

The woman suffered serious injury as she was near the scene.

(*The Korea Herald*, January 8, 1980)

BOK Sees Short-lived Effect of Won Devaluation

The devaluation of local currency against the U.S. dollar is not a cure-all for the business malaise currently experienced by Korean exporters, in particular, the Bank of Korea argued on December 25.

In a study report, the central bank maintained that the devaluation of won currency, if effectuated, will certainly inject a fresh vigor into the sluggish export performance but the effect of the exchange rate readjustment will be shortlived, perhaps three to five months.

On the long-term basis, the bank contended that the devaluation of the won currency will do more harm than good for the nation's export industries.

It noted that the sweeping hike of the public utilities charges and manufactured goods has been made with the year end drawing nearer and international crude oil prices are almost certain to be marked up substantially sooner or later.

Under the circumstances, it is less desirable for the government to devaluate the local currency against the U.S. dollar simply to give incentive to the export industries, the central bank asserted.

Taking into account the hefty deficit figure in the trade sector, the devaluation of won currency will bring about more loss than gain, it said.

The central bank also pointed out that a sizable number of local exporters have overseas liabilities which would be directly affected by the possible devaluation of won currency.

(*The Korea Herald*, December 26, 1979)

"SR-71" Plane Intrudes Into DPRK Air

The U.S. troops who are frantic with new war preparations from the outset of the New Year committed a hostile espionage act from 11:59 to 12:29 January 10 by infiltrating the high-speed and high-altitude reconnaissance plane "SR-71" into the sky above the western coastal waters off Kangryong Peninsula of the country and sending again the plane into the sky above the DPRK's territorial waters east of Kosong.

Entering the New Year, the U.S. troops infiltrated the high-speed and high-altitude reconnaissance plane "SR-71" already five times into the sky above the eastern and western coasts of the DPRK to commit hostile espionage acts.

While staging large-scale south Korea-U.S. joint military exercises against the northern half of the Republic in the areas near the Military Demarcation Line from the beginning of the year to create a war atmosphere, the United States is ceaselessly committing such espionage and hostile acts. These acts are premeditated ones designed to divert elsewhere the attention of the south Korean people who are vigorously struggling against fascism and for democracy, heighten the tension in the country, further step up the new war preparations and thus bridge over the crisis of the colonial fascist rule shaking to its foundation.

But the war manoeuvres of the United States will bring it nothing good.

The United States must look straight at the reality, stop a dangerous play with fire and act with discretion.

Brief History of Korean Residents in Japan:

Origins of Korean Community In Japan (1910-1945)

The General Association of Korean Residents in Japan (Chongryun) will mark its 25th birthday on coming May 25. The People's Korea will introduce a brief history of Korean nationals in Japan....Ed.

At present, there are about 650,000 Korean nationals in Japan. They are Koreans who were brought to Japan by the Japanese colonialists for forced labor or who were forced to come to Japan in search of livelihoods, having lost their jobs or lands under the barbarous colonial rule of Japan over Korea, and their sons and daughters.

Forced Migration

Migration of millions of Koreans began in 1910 when Japan turned Korea into a colony.

The outbreak of the Russo-Japanese War in February, 1904, provided Japan with an excuse to invade Korea, force the Korean ruler to sign a protocol, establish a protectorate over Korea, and occupy the Korean Peninsula. After this action, the process of completing Japanese control on Korea was rapidly accelerated. On Oct. 27, 1905, Japan forced the Korean ruler to sign the so-called "protectorate treaty" by which the Japanese were empowered to appoint a resident-general at Seoul and Korea's foreign affairs were brought under Japan's control. On July 23, 1907 Japan imposed a seven-point treaty on Korea to completely occupy Korea. With the conclusion of this treaty all the political rights such as enactment of laws, administrative powers, power of appointing and discharging officials came to be controled by the Japanese Resident-General. In August, the same year, the Korean army was forcibly dissolved, and then Korea lost its sovereignty in reality. This process of gradual encroachment was brought to its ultimate conclusion on August 22, 1910, when the country was finally annexed by Japan.

After the Japanese annexation, a land tenancy system spread rapidly and a large class of landless peasants was formed in Korea.

In order to rake in super profits from its colony, the Japanese colonialists deprived Koreans of their lands in the name of "land survey" between 1910 and 1918. Farmers were instructed to register their land holdings within a specified period, but many illiterate farmers did not understand the instruction of procedures and lost their title to their land. The plunder of land by the Japanese were mainly carried out in rice-growing areas such as South and North Cholla provinces, South and North Kyongsang provinces, Kyonggi and South Chungchong provinces. The modern landownership was not established in the then Korea.

In this situation, the Japanese colonialists, through the "land survey", protected the big feudalistic local landlords who supported the Japanese colonization, and the Japanese confiscated public lands as their "national lands." Through a new tax structure, a high farm rent was guaranteed by large Korean landowners. Tenant farmers were obliged to pay even taxes and other public charges which were supposed to be paid by the landowners. This caused peasants to fall deep into debt.

Since then, Koreans began to immigrate to Japan, some to Manchuria, Outer Mongolia and Siberia.

Large numbers of Koreans were deprived of their livelihoods by these and other predatory and plunderous means. This resulted in the development of a large class of landless peasants. The Koreans who lost their means of subsistence in this way, became a constant source of cheap labor for Japanese monopoly capitalists.

The number of Koreans who were forcibly brought to Japan rose sharply as the Japanese colonialists' plunder in Korea and its aggressive policy against the Asian continent were intensified.

During a period from 1910 to 1919, when the "land survey" was carried out and when Korea was ruled at bayonet point, Korean workers were actively introduced into Japan by Japanese enterprises. When the Japanese colonialists suffered from acute labor shortage during the First World War (1914-18) because of the rapid expansion of the economy, they forcibly brought Koreans to Japan in large numbers in order to solve the problem of acute labor shortage and to maintain their low wage policy.

According to statistical data, the number of Korean residents in Japan, which stood at only 229 in 1904, jumped to more than 30,000 in 1920 after the so-called "annexation" of Korea to Japan.

In the years from the depression of 1920 through that of 1929 and until the outbreak of the "Manchuria incident" in 1931, Japan was plagued by an acute economic crisis, with the rate of unemployment increasing rapidly.

During the depression of the 1920s, Japanese enterprises continued to induct cheap labor from Korea. The inflow of Korean labor into Japan caused a rapid increase in labor force and a consequent rise in unemployment. Thus, came the monopoly by major corporations of labor market. This situation enabled the big corporations to employ cheaper labor in wide-ranged domains.

Later, during the period of aggression against the continent and particularly during the Pacific War, Japan enforced a system of wartime labor drafting in Korea and drafted large numbers of Korean men and women, who were sent to the front or to Japan to solve the wartime labor shortage in Japan.

By starting the Manchurian Incident in 1931, the Japanese monopolists sought to extricate themselves from the economic crisis. This brought about a rapid expansion of Japanese industry. In 1937 Japan started all-out invasion of China. Therefore, wartime production necessarily demanded more Korean labor. The Japanese government started a systematic program of fully mobilizing Korean labor and forced Koreans to come to Japan. In 1939, the Japanese government promulgated the "labor mobilization law," under which hundreds of thousands of Korean laborers were forcibly brought to Japan between 1939 and 1945. The number of Koreans thus drafted reached 3,340,000.

Maltreatment

The Koreans drafted and forcibly brought to Japan were insulted and maltreated. No minimum cost of living was guaranteed for them.

Several thousand Koreans were massacred, when a disastrous earthquake jolted the Kanto area of Japan in September, 1923. After the earthquake, rumors began to be circulated that Koreans were planning to attack Japanese and were setting fire and poisoning wells. In the midst of confusion, many Japanese people accepted these rumors as true and murdered more than 6,600 Koreans collectively and individually. The Koreans were chosen as convenient scapegoats for the disasters in the wake of the earthquake. The Japanese government did nothing to calm public hysteria or to refute the rumors about Koreans.

The Japanese colonialists made the drafted Koreans to work in the most dangerous places of employment such as coal and metal mines, bridge and road construction sites, tunneling, railway construction, construction of military facilities and installations, etc. They were low-paid and their living conditions were miserable. According to Japanese official data, the number of Koreans who were forced to work in coal mines where the rate of accidents was the highest, reached 400,000. As many as 60,000 Koreans died in Japanese coal mines between 1940 and 1944.

Many Koreans drafted for forced labor for construction of munitions factories and military installations were arrested, imprisoned and murdered in a most brutal manner for the sake of "security." In 1933 alone, 49,468 Koreans were arrested and imprisoned on charges of violation of the Public Peace Maintenance Law and interference with government officials in the execution of their official duties.

Following the promulgation of the "labor mobilization law," a large number of Koreans were brought to Japan. They included Korean females. A large number of young females were forcibly sent to the front as "comfort girls" for Japanese soldiers. Their number is estimated at 80,000 to 100,000 from 1938 to 1945.

Since 1943, a large number of women were forcibly collected in the name of volunteers. About 200,000 unmarried females from 12 years up and under 40 years were collected. 50,000 to 70,000 young females of them were sent to the front as "comfort women" and middle-aged persons were sent to the munition factories.

A large majority of Koreans now residing in Japan are those who survived this brutal national contempt and maltreatment, and their sons and daughters.

Struggles of Koreans

During the pre-liberation period, Korean nationals here couldn't wage valiant struggle under their own organization. However, along with the strengthened anti-Japanese liberation struggles on the Korean Peninsula, some of them attempted to join the anti-Japanese liberation struggles, and others staged various kinds of struggles in Japan. They staged mass walkout, strikes, sabotage, and riots at mines, factories, military establishments, Japanese military barracks. Such resistance greatly influenced war-time transport and the production of military materials. From October, 1939 to October 1942, 35.6 percent of Korean workers at mines reportedly ran away. In 1941 and 1942, about 30,165 workers staged strikes over 602 times in Japan. The strikes included 449 times of strikes by 26,149 of the Korean workers. As the war neared its end, the struggles of the Korean nationals in Japan became active.

Some of the students studying in Japan determined to fight against the Japanese colonialists and left Japan for Korea, where anti-Japanese guerrilla fighters struggled for the national liberation. This was typified by the "incident of the students at Kanazawa". Patriotic students at Kanazawa, Ishikawa Prefecture, attempted to join the anti-guerrilla fighters on the Korean Peninsula, saying that Marshal Kim Il Sung sought for the independence of the country, with Mt. Paekdu as the base. (June issue, 1944 of "Tokko Geppo", the magazine of the Japanese special political police of those days).

Drafted Koreans were forced to work at most dangerous places, construction sites, mines, etc. Photo: Korean workers at the Numakura Power Station, in Fukushima Prefecture.

Korean Paintings **"Rhododendron"** **By Han Myong Ryol (1977)**

News Dispatch from Pyongyang

1979
Dec. 27

• Jean-Baptiste Bagaza, President of the Republic of Burundi, met the delegation of the WPK headed by Kong Jin Tae, Member of the CC of the WPK and Vice-Premier of the Administration Council, on a visit to Burundi.

Referring to the question of Korean reunification, the president said that the Burundi people would invariably and actively support in the future, too, the Korean people's cause of national reunification.

Dec. 28

• Kim Yong Su, ambassador of the DPRK to Liberia, paid a farewell call on Liberian President William Richard Tolbert.

The Liberian president noted that the Korean people under the correct guidance of President Kim Il Sung have achieved great successes.

• Mathieu Kerekou, President of the People's Republic of Benin, met the Charge d' Affaire ad Inferim of the DPRK embassy in Benin. Benin president pointed to the friendly and cooperative relations between the two countries and expressed full support for the Korean people's cause of national reunification.

He sincerely wished President Kim Il Sung good health and a long life in the New Year for the independent and peaceful reunification of Korea and the prosperity of the country.

1980
Jan.4

• Tancred Ibsen, new Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Kingdom of Norway to the DPRK, arrived in Pyongyang by train.

• Kye Ung Tae met the delegation of functionaries of the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan (Chongryun) headed by Kim Su Sik, deputy director of the Information Department of Chongryun CSC.

Jan. 5

• A party and government delegation of the DPRK headed by Chong Jun Gi, Alternate Member of the Political Committee of the CC of the WPK and Vice-Premier of the Administration Council, left Pyongyang by plane for a visit to Iraq.

Jan. 7

• The WPK delegation headed by Kong Jin Tae, Member of the CC of the WPK and Vice-Premier of the Administration Council, came back Pyongyang by plane after attending the First National Convention of the Party of National Unity and Progress of Burundi.

• Vice-Premier and Foreign Minister Ho Dam met and had a friendly talk with Tancred Ibsen, newly appointed Norwegian ambassador.

Jan. 8

• A government delegation of the Republic of Equatorial Guinea headed by Eulogio Oyo Riquesa, Member of the Supreme Military Council of the Republic of Equatorial Guinea and Supreme Military Governor of Bioco Province, arrived in Pyongyang by plane.

Jan. 9

• The DPRK government ecomomic delegation headed by Vice-Premier Kong Jin Tae left Pyongyang for Iran by plane.

• The government delegation of the Republic of Equatorial Guinea left Pyongyang by train.

Jan. 10

• DPRK Vice-President Pak Sung Chul and his wife met and had a friendly conversation with his excellency Mohamed Hosni Mubarak, Vice-President of the Arab Republic of Egypt, and his wife who paid a courtesy call on them.

Jan.11

• Talks between Vice-President Pak Sung Chul and His Excellency Mohamed Hosni Mubarak, Vice-President of the Arab Republic of Egypt, were held in Pyongyang. (KCNA)

World Bulletin

●Brown coal is used in the production of electric power in Romania.

●Yugoslavia has increased the production of unwrought steel.

●A mammoth anti-U.S. demonstration was staged in Iran, in which more than one million people participated.

●The construction of palm oil factories are under way in Togo.

●The Toamasina Port of Madagascar plays an important role in economic development.

●Tanzania attained the success in creating raw rubber production bases.

●The Iranian Islamic leader Khomeini called upon the people to display perseverance against the ceaseless provocations of the U.S. imperialists.

●The 32nd anniversary of independence of Burma was celebrated in Burma.

●Power industry and agriculture are developing in Mali.

●Good successes was achieved in an orange harvest in Algeria.

●Upper Volta is making efforts for the building of the national industry.

●Transport and communications are developing in Mozambique.

●A series of steps are being taken in Nicaragua to develop the rural economy.

●The Malagasy, Guinean, Mozambican and Angolan presidents, in their speeches on the New Year, denounced imperialism and racism and called for a more energetic striving to build a new society.

●Steps were taken in China to develop the light industry and textile industry.

●Cultural construction is promoted in Burma.

●Steps was taken in Burundi for the development of agriculture.

●The 7th Syrian Regional Congress of the Arab Socialist Baath Party was held in Damascus.

●The President of the Congo in his recent speech expressed the determination of his people to defend the national independence and sovereignty.

●Bulgaria attained the achievements in the fulfilment of the national economic plan for 1979.

●Health services are developed in Cuba.

●Cooperative farms are formed in Benin.

●Venezuelan and Mexican papers denounced the U.S. imperialists for violating the sovereignty of the developing countries.

●The Yemen Arab Republic made progress in national education.

●New Year addresses and messages were published in Romania, Mongolia and Poland.

●National education is developing in Seychelles.

●The appearance of towns and villages changed in Mozambique.

●Coal output has trebled in Czechoslovakia.

●The Tisza Thermal Power Plant of Hungary plays an important role in the development of the country's national economy.

●Many ships are repaired in the German Democratic Repubric.

●Efforts are directed by Rwanda to the development of agriculture.

(KCNA)

Korean Cultural History:

Creation, Development of Paleolithic Culture

Ancestors of the Korean nation inhabited the Korean Peninsula and in the southern part of Northeast China, possessed of paleolithic culture, as far back as the remote antiquity when mankind appeared on this globe for the first time.

Its evidence is ample in the remains excavated in the DPRK. Komunmoru remains were unearthed in 1966 in Sangwon county, Pyongyang. Twenty-two kinds of fossilized animal bones and stone tools made of silicide chloride were found in a chloride cavern about 30 meter in length.

The Komunmoru remains belonged to the early 4th period in geology, the oldest remains ever discovered in Korea.

The fossilized mammals there showed Korea in those days suited human habitation. Among the fossilized animals were many perissodactyla which were oftenly in the facies of animals of the third period.

They included field mouse living in swamp land, hyena with short jaw and rhinoceros with two big horns that became all extinct.

This indicates that the animal facies of the Komunmoru remains are 600,000-400,000 years old, that is, of the early stage of the fourth period, or of the end of the lower diluvium epoch or of the beginning of mid-diluvium epoch.

The fossils included many bones of those animals who inhabited the forest, the grassy plain and the marshland and suited high temperature. In other words, it may be safe to say: temperature was far higher than today; there were overgrown with trees and weeds, with various kinds of fruits and animals.

Stonewares of the Komunmoru remains were rough and of silicide chloride. They were made in a primitive way. There were trapezoid- and point-shaped stonewares. Similar stonewares were found amidst the artifacts excavated in Heidelberg, Germany.

People in those days lived in groups by hunting animals and gathering plants with the use of stonewares. They in the primitive paleolithic age were pithecanthrope (ape-man).

For hundreds of thousands years thence, the Korean ancestors slowly overcame nature through the continuous labor and the improvement of tools. In this course, their brain capacity increased and their physique underwent changes. Pithecanthrope grew into the ancients.

In 1973, fossil human beings, as they were called "Tokchon people," were found in a grotto of Mt. Sungri, Tokchon county, South Pyongan Prov. The fossil bones of the Tokchon people (two teeth, a shoulder bone) were found in the bottom of the facies of animal fossils in the stratum of the fourth upper part of the diluvial epoch or the middle of the diluvial epoch (about 100,000 years ago).

They showed ample features as the ancients. Tokchon people made advanced stone artifacts than those of the primitive period, as evidenced by the remains of the Kulpori first cultural stratum in Kulpo-ri, Unggi county, North Hamgyong Prov., excavated in 1963. The first stratum belonged to the mid paleolithic age about 100,000 years ago.

The following stone implements were found in the temporary habitation sites of 30-40 square meters, which were not uniform in shape: stone axes, flake tools, and core tools. These stonewares indicate that, the Tokchon people chopped stones to make pieces of stone tools and know to improve them.

In the mid paleolithic age (250,000-50,000 years ago) the ancients made further progress. They were neanthropic men very similar to modern men.

lower jaw of Sungrisan people

Fossil lower jaws of men were found in the top layer of facies of animal bones in a cavern of Mt. Sungri, Tokchon county, South Pyongan Prov.

The fossilized jaws of the Sungri people were defined as those of neanthropic people in the light of their morphological features. The lower jaws, however, were regarded as those of the early neanthropic man, because it is resembled of those of the ancients in width, height and thickness.

Yet, the Sungri people possessed far advanced instruments than the ancients.

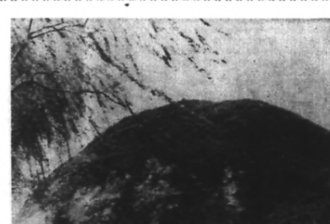
Many stone implement made of solid stone which were unearthed from the second stratum of the Kulpori remains proved to be of later paleolithic provinance 40,000-30,000 years ago.

Among them were stone instruments for trimming off furs and slicing meat, stone axe, knife blade, etc.

These artifacts prove that the neanthropic people had much advanced methods for elaborately processing stones.

The neanthropic people made bone-harpoons, spears and arrows heads for use in hunting.

In the latter half of the paleolithic age, matriarchal clan communities were formed. Clan communities used joint labor, increasing production.



Komunmoru remains excavated in 1966 in Sangwon county, Pyongyang

Left at the mercy of nature, production in those days were low and it was impossible to store the products. They made a bare living through joint labor and consumption.

With the appearance of clan communities, the division of labor between men and women became clear. Men mainly engaged in hunting and fishing and women were farmers and housekeepers.

Female productive activity was more stable than that of the males. Blood relationship was identified only by the maternal line.

Since matriarchal clan communities appeared in the later period of the paleolithic age, it attained the highest stage of prosperity in the neolithic age.

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